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Rip Hunter...
TIME MASTER
12¢
GOD OF THE SUN! TAKE THESE DEFILERS OF STONEHENGE TO THE FIERY SKIES -- AND DESTROY THEM!
"The 2200-YEAR-OLD DOOM!"

Rip Hunter... TIME MASTER

Chapter 1

A FANTASTIC MENACE TO MANKIND SPANS THE CENTURIES AND THREATENS ALL LIFE ON EARTH! TO STAVE OFF THIS INEXORABLE CATASTROPHE, RIP HUNTER AND HIS INTREPID BAND OF TIME TRAVELERS RACE FROM PAST TO PRESENT TO FUTURE, IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO STOP...

THE 2,200 YEAR-OLD DOOM

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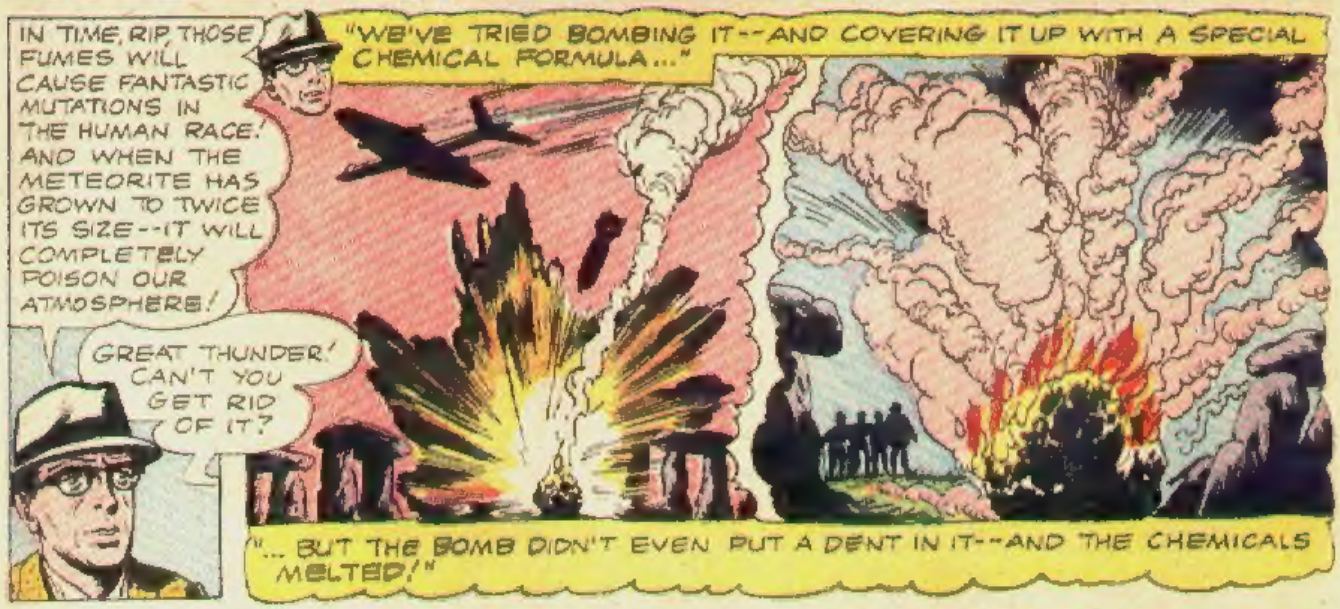
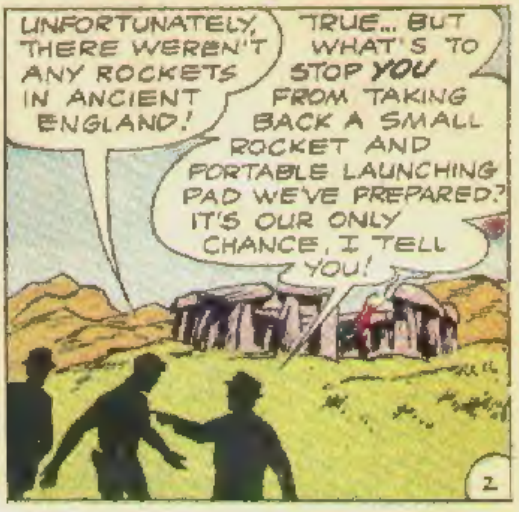
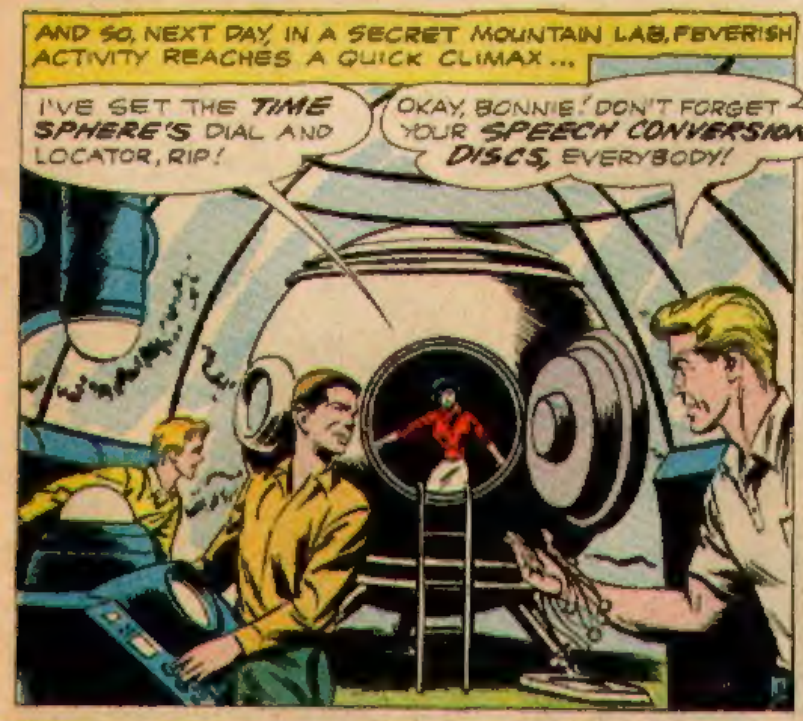
IN A REMOTE AREA IN SOUTH WILTSHIRE, ENGLAND, WHERE RIP HUNTER, THE FAR-FAMED TIME MASTER, HAS BEEN SUMMONED...
GOOD GRIEF! THAT STRANGE SUBSTANCE IS BURNING THE ROCK HILL INTO WEIRD SHAPES! WHAT IS IT, PROFESSOR BLAKE?
THE STRANGEST AND DEADLIEST METEORITE THAT EVER STRUCK EARTH, RIP!

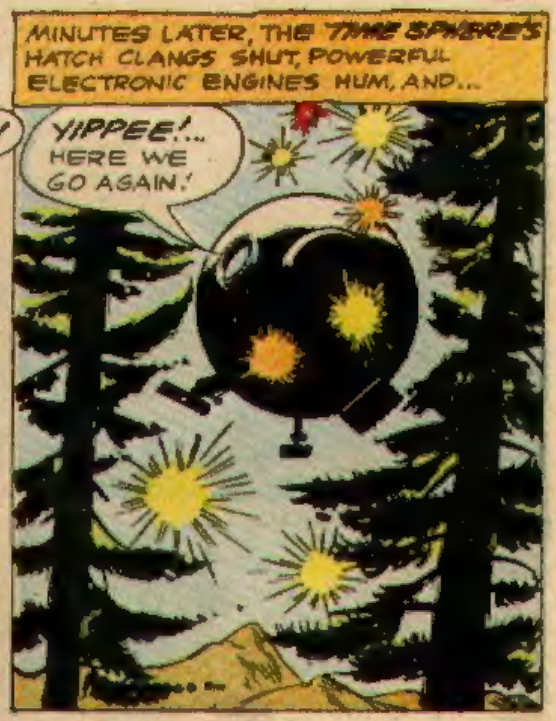
FROM ITS RATE OF GROWTH, I JUDGE THAT IT FELL TO EARTH ABOUT 100 B.C.
YOU SAID IT WAS DEADLY! HOW?

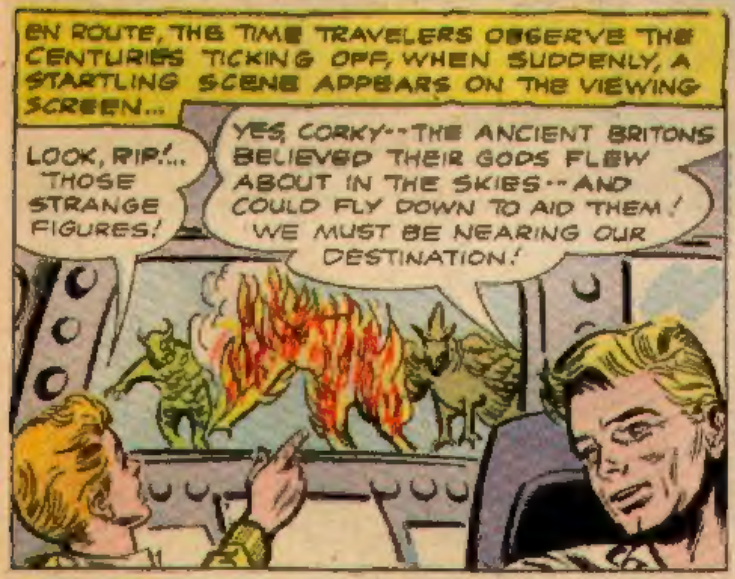

IN TIME, RIP, THOSE FUMES WILL CAUSE FANTASTIC MUTATIONS IN THE HUMAN RACE! AND WHEN THE METEORITE HAS GROWN TO TWICE ITS SIZE--IT WILL COMPLETELY POISON OUR ATMOSPHERE!
"WE'VE TRIED BOMBING IT--AND COVERING IT UP WITH A SPECIAL CHEMICAL FORMULA..."
GREAT THUNDER! CAN'T YOU GET RID OF IT?
"... BUT THE BOMB DIDN'T EVEN PUT A DENT IN IT--AND THE CHEMICALS MELTED!"

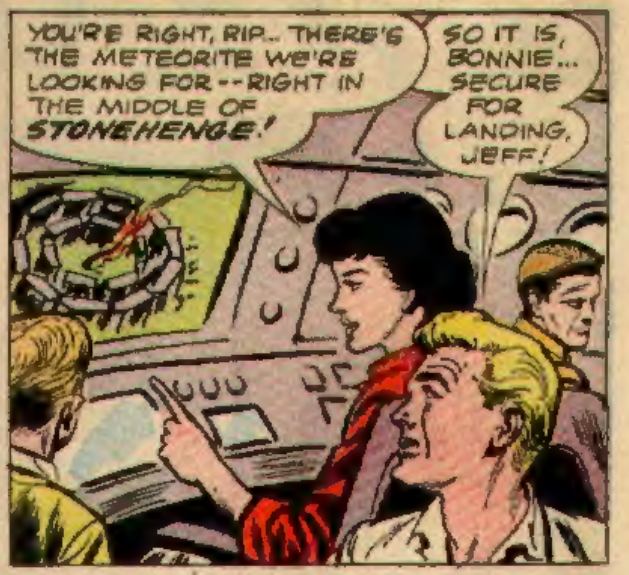
THEN WHAT IS THE ANSWER, PROFESSOR?
WE'VE GOT ONE HOPE, RIP.. TO SNAG THAT METEORITE WHEN IT WAS QUITE SMALL--IN THE YEAR 100 B.C.-- AND SHOOT IT BACK INTO OUTER SPACE!


UNFORTUNATELY, THERE WEREN'T ANY ROCKETS IN ANCIENT ENGLAND!
TRUE... BUT WHAT'S TO STOP YOU FROM TAKING BACK A SMALL ROCKET AND PORTABLE LAUNCHING PAD WE'VE PREPARED? IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE, I TELL YOU!

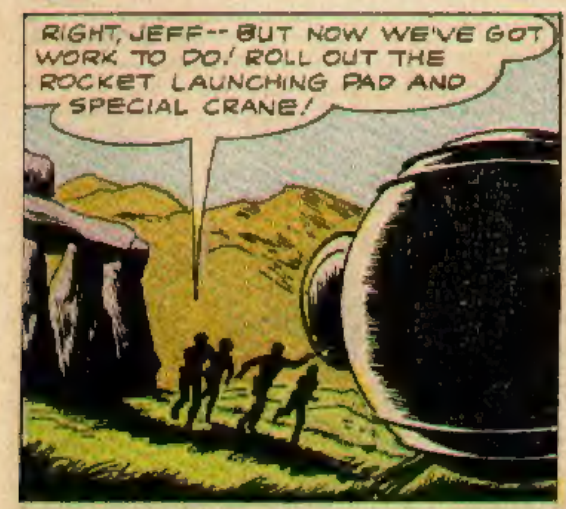

AND SO, NEXT DAY, IN A SECRET MOUNTAIN LAB, FEVERISH ACTIVITY REACHES A QUICK CLIMAX...
I'VE SET THE TIME SPHERE'S DIAL AND LOCATOR, RIP!
OKAY, BONNIE! DON'T FORGET YOUR SPEECH CONVERSION DISCS, EVERYBODY!

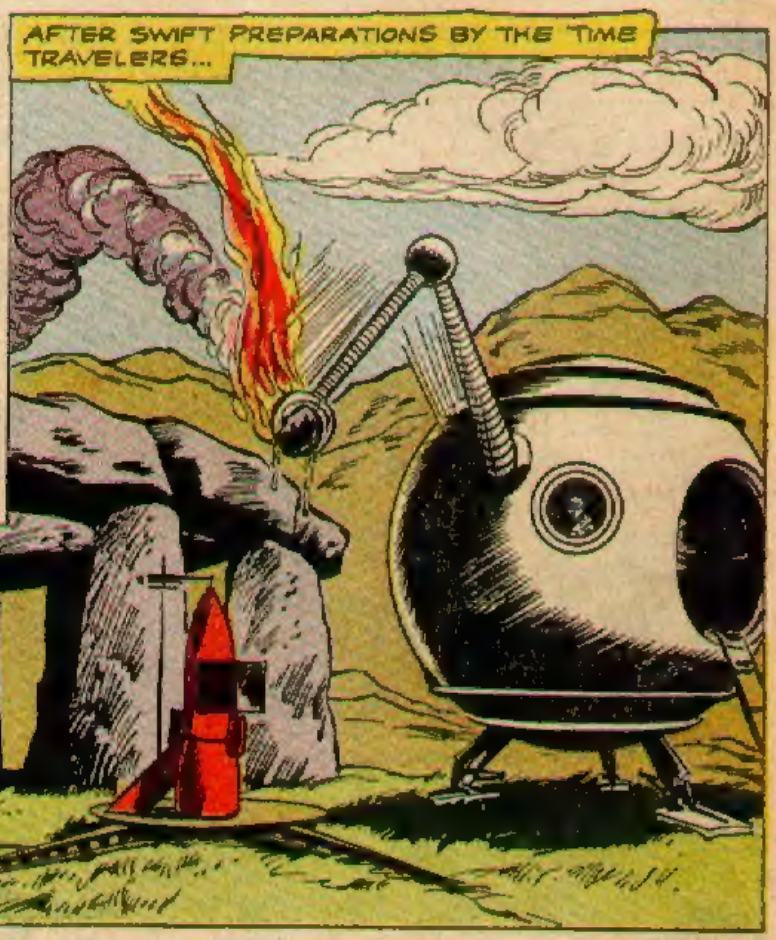

MINUTES LATER, THE TIME SPHERE'S HATCH CLANGS SHUT, POWERFUL ELECTRONIC ENGINES HUM, AND...
YIPPEE!... HERE WE GO AGAIN!


EN ROUTE, THE TIME TRAVELERS OBSERVE THE CENTURIES TICKING OFF, WHEN SUDDENLY, A STARTLING SCENE APPEARS ON THE VIEWING SCREEN...
LOOK, RIP!... THOSE STRANGE FIGURES!
YES, CORKY--THE ANCIENT BRITONS BELIEVED THEIR GODS FLEW ABOUT IN THE SKIES--AND COULD FLY DOWN TO AID THEM! WE MUST BE NEARING OUR DESTINATION!

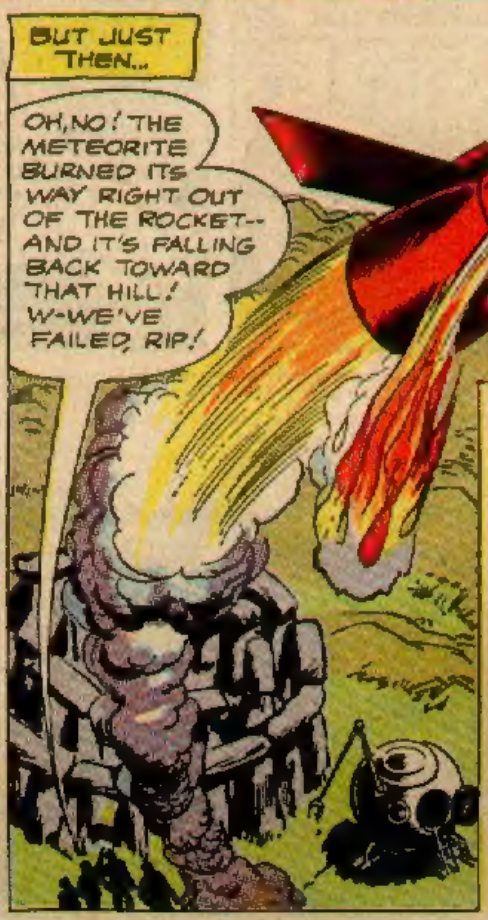

YOU'RE RIGHT, RIP... THERE'S THE METEORITE WE'RE LOOKING FOR--RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF STONEHENGE!
SO IT IS, BONNIE... SECURE FOR LANDING, JEFF!

SHORTLY...
EVIDENTLY, STONEHENGE WAS ONCE AN ORDINARY STONE MOUNTAIN--SEARED TO ITS FAMOUS FORM BY THE BURNING ACTION OF THE METEORITE!
THAT MAY BE THE ANSWER TO ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING MYSTERIES IN HISTORY!


RIGHT, JEFF-- BUT NOW WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO! ROLL OUT THE ROCKET LAUNCHING PAD AND SPECIAL CRANE!


AFTER SWIFT PREPARATIONS BY THE TIME TRAVELERS...
HURRY IT INTO THE ROCKET, JEFF! THE CRANE GRAPPLERS WERE SPECIALLY BUILT FOR INTENSE HEAT-- BUT THEY'RE STARTING TO MELT!

WHOOM
THERE IT GOES! WE SURE COMPLETED THIS MISSION IN RECORD TIME, RIP!

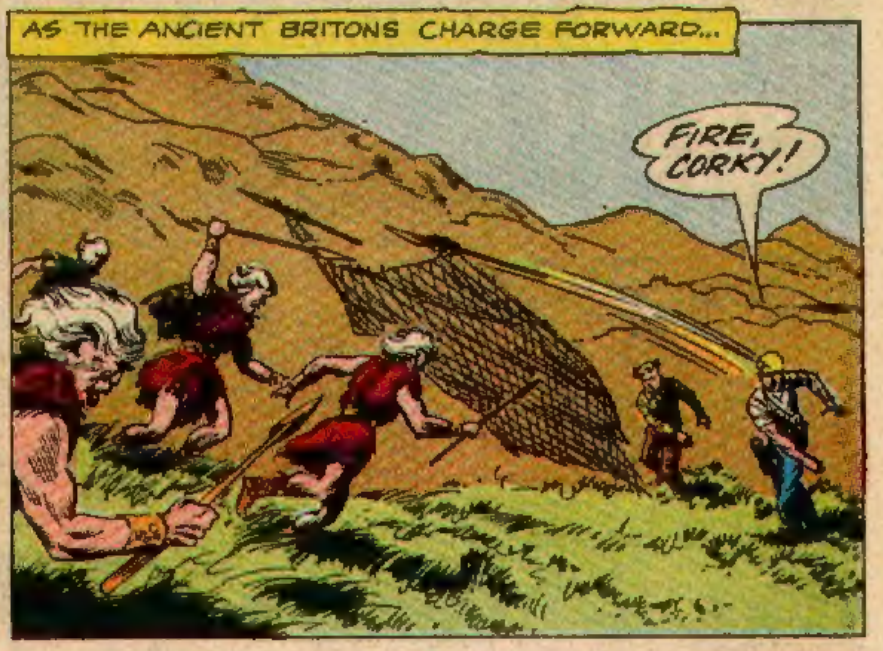

BUT JUST THEN...
OH, NO! THE METEORITE BURNED ITS WAY RIGHT OUT OF THE ROCKET-- AND IT'S FALLING BACK TOWARD THAT HILL! W-WE'VE FAILED, RIP!

AFRAID SO, BONNIE! YOU AND JEFF GET THE SPHERE READY FOR THE RETURN TRIP... I'LL TAKE PHOTOS OF THE DISASTER FOR PROFESSOR BLAKE! COME ON, CORKY!

LATER...
WATCH OUT YOU DON'T TRIP OVER THOSE FISHING NETS AND SPEARS, CORKY!
THAT REMINDS ME, RIP-- WHY HAVEN'T WE SEEN ANY OF THE ANCIENT BRITONS AROUND?

AS IF IN ANSWER, OMINOUS GRUMBLINGS FILL THE AIR...
YOU WILL PAY FOR DEFILING OUR TEMPLE, STRANGERS! SEIZE THEM!

QUICK, CORKY!... HOOK THE TIPS OF ONE OF THESE SPEARS THROUGH THE NET ENDS--AND STAND READY!
GOT YOU, RIP!


AS THE ANCIENT BRITONS CHARGE FORWARD...
FIRE, CORKY!

IT WORKED! THEY'RE ALL TANGLED UP IN THE NET!
JUST AS I HOPED! NOW-- BACK TO THE TIME SPHERE!

BUT NEXT MOMENT...
YIKES! WE RAN RIGHT INTO ANOTHER BUNCH OF THEM!
TO THE TEMPLE WITH THESE TWO!

PRESENTLY, BACK AT STONEHENGE...
OUR LEADER, CARADOC, WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE!
WH-WHAT'LL THEY DO TO US, RIP?

I'D JUST AS SOON NOT WAIT TO FIND OUT! I'M GOING TO CONTACT JEFF AND BONNIE IN THE SPHERE! COVER ME, CORKY!

BUT SOME TIME LATER...
WHAT IS THE FATE YOU HAVE DECREED FOR THE STRANGERS, CARADOC?
FOR STEALING AWAY THE SACRED FIRE FROM THE TEMPLE, THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE PUNISHMENT!

I CALL UPON THE VENGEFUL SUN GOD TO TAKE THEM TO THE FIERY SKIES-- AND DESTROY THEM!
H-HE DOESN'T REALLY EXPECT THAT TO HAPPEN, DOES HE, RIP?

HI! I'm JOHNNY DC, THE MASCOT AT SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATIONS.

Every year, one of my greatest pleasures is looking forward to reading the Annual Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer Magazine... This year I'm getting a real treat. We have published a GIANT ANNUAL starring Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer, in three complete novelettes plus Games and Puzzles aplenty! You might say it's more fun than a barrel of monkeys...a Triple-Pleasure Treasure!

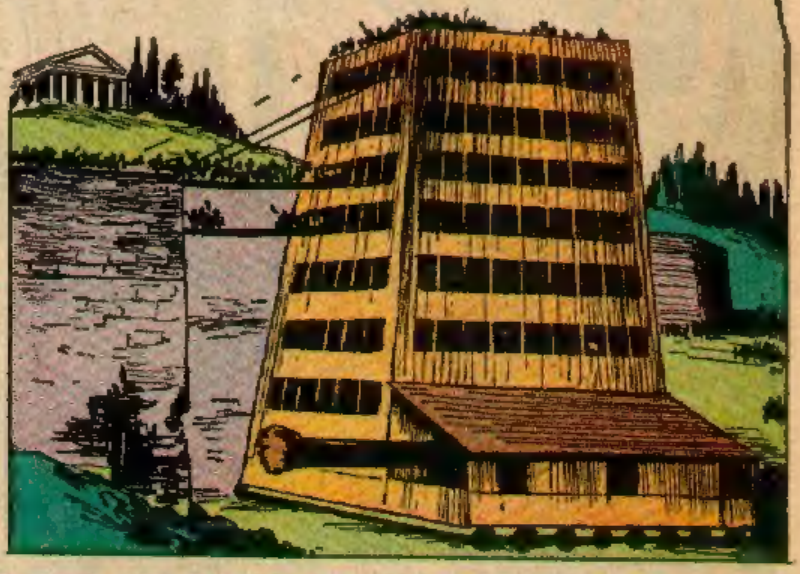
Give yourself a real CHRISTMAS PRESENT!.. And get some extra copies as gifts for your friends!

The GIANT ANNUAL Rudolph THE RED-NOSED REINDEER

NOW ON SALE WHEREVER THE BEST COMICS MAGAZINES ARE SOLD!

THE TIME JOURNAL

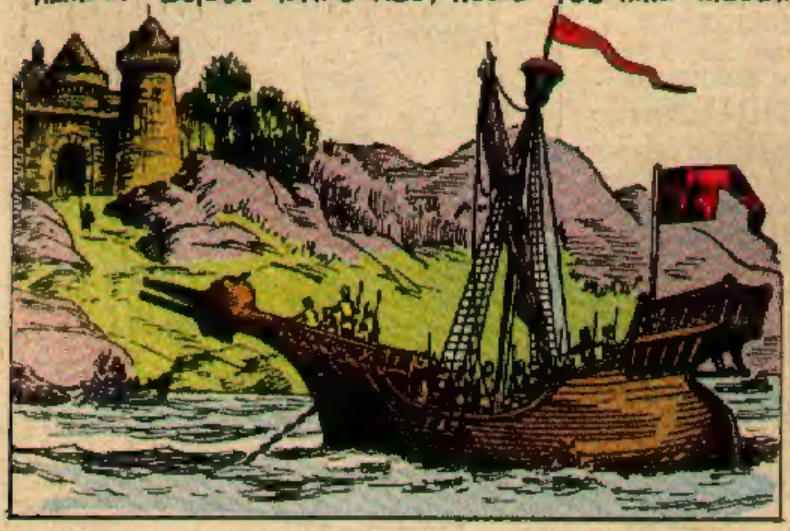
STRANGE AND CURIOUS FACTS COLLECTED BY RIP HUNTER ON HIS AMAZING ADVENTURES INTO THE PAST



SYRACUSE, SICILY, 212 B.C.... THE FIRST SIEGE MACHINE IN HISTORY WENT INTO ACTION ON THIS DATE, AND WAS USED TO DEFEND THIS CITY AGAINST THE ROMANS. THE MACHINE WAS THE INVENTION OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS MATHEMATICIAN, ARCHIMEDES, AND WAS ACTUALLY A PORTABLE FORTRESS, WITH WARRIORS AND WEAPONS FIGHTING ON EVERY LEVEL.

ATHENS, 160 B.C.... THE SPEECHES OF LAWYERS IN ATHENIAN COURTS WERE LIMITED. TIME WAS MEASURED BY ALLOWING WATER TO ESCAPE FROM ONE VESSEL INTO ANOTHER. THE LAWYER HAD TO CLAM UP WHEN THE LAST DROP OF WATER WAS TRANSFERRED.

75,000 B.C.... THE CAVE MEN WEREN'T NEARLY SO PRIMITIVE AS SOME PEOPLE THINK! THIS INGENIOUS METHOD OF PRODUCING FIRE WAS ACTUALLY IN USE ALMOST 80,000 YEARS AGO! WOULD YOU HAVE THOUGHT OF IT?

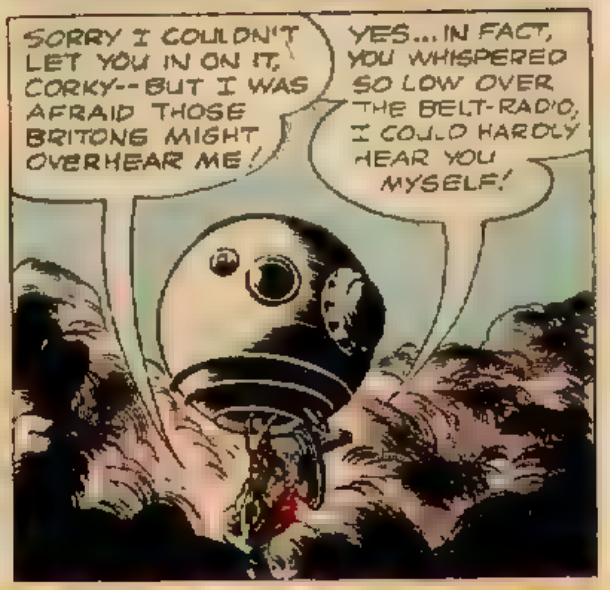


GERMANY, 1357... PROBABLY THE MOST ODDLY-SHAPED SHIPS EVER BUILT BELONGED TO THE GERMAN CITIES COMPRISING THE HANSEATIC LEAGUE, AN ASSOCIATION FORMED TO FURTHER TRADE. THESE CURIOUS BUT STURDY SHIPS CARRIED GOODS TO AND FROM EVERY LARGE COMMERCIAL CENTER OF THE DAY, FROM LISBON TO NOVGOROD, RUSSIA.

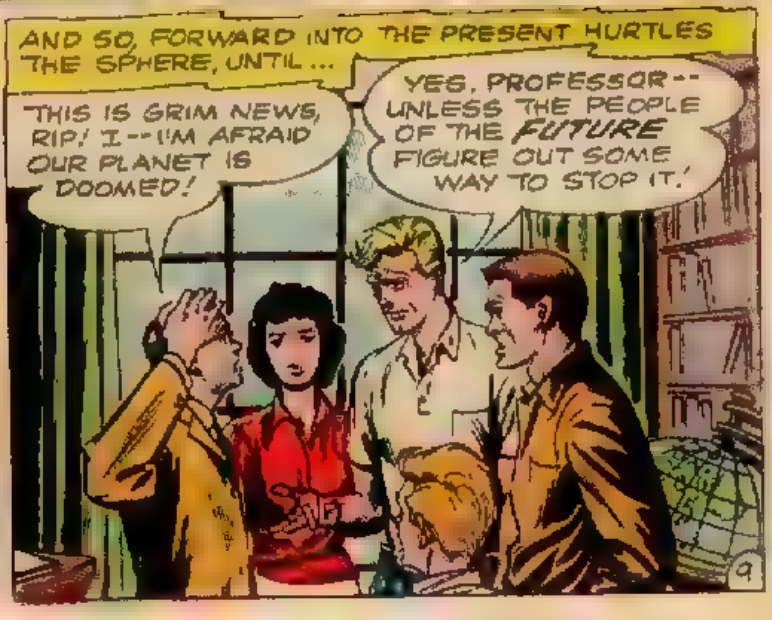
THE DESPERATE BATTLE AGAINST THE ALIEN METEORITE RAGES FAR INTO THE DOOMED FUTURE AND BACK AGAIN TO THE DAWN OF HISTORY, WHILE THE HAPLESS TIME TRAVELERS FACE THEIR OWN FIGHT TO THE DEATH AGAINST...
Chapter 2
THE IMPOSSIBLE BEASTS of ONE MILLION B.C.
RIP! TH-THAT INCREDIBLE MONSTER... IF IT EVER HITS THE TIME SPHERE, WE'LL BE STRANDED IN THE PAST FOR GOOD!

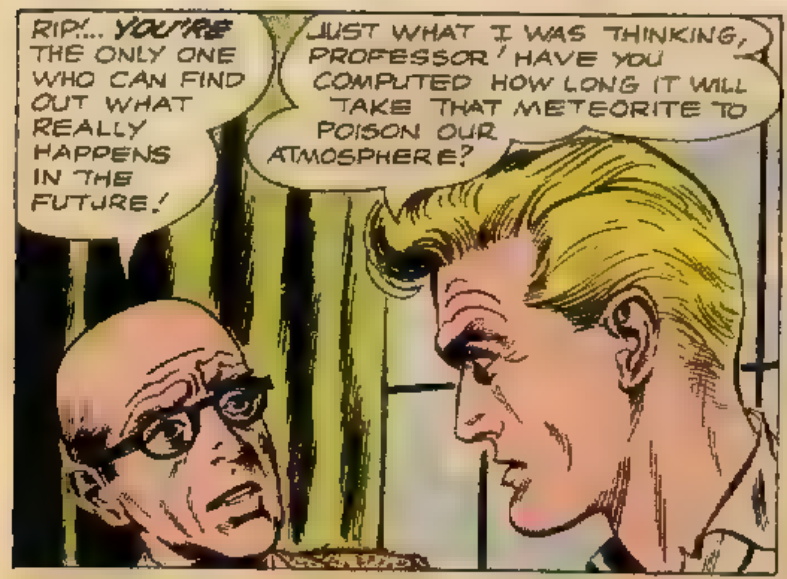
GRIPPED BY THE AWESOME SUN GOD, THE TIME TRAVELERS ARE LOFTED HIGHER AND HIGHER.
WH-WHERE'S IT TAKING US, RIP?

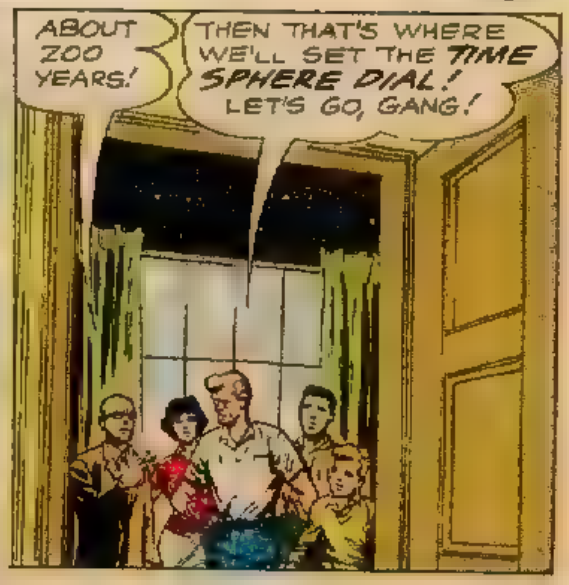
HA, HA! NOT VERY FAR CORKY
JEEPERS!... IT'S JEFF, INSIDE THE SUN GOD FIGURE, HANGING FROM A--A WIRE CABLE!

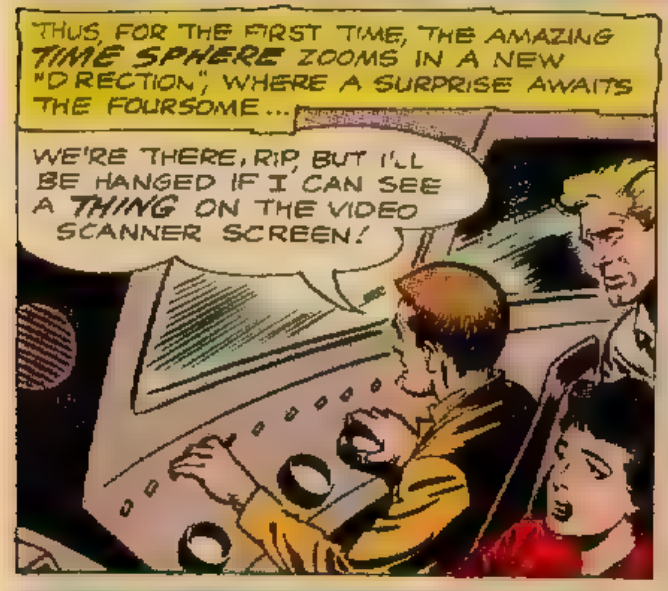

SORRY I COULDN'T LET YOU IN ON IT, CORKY--BUT I WAS AFRAID THOSE BRITONS MIGHT OVERHEAR ME!
YES... IN FACT, YOU WHISPERED SO LOW OVER THE BELT-RADIO, I COULD HARDLY HEAR YOU MYSELF!

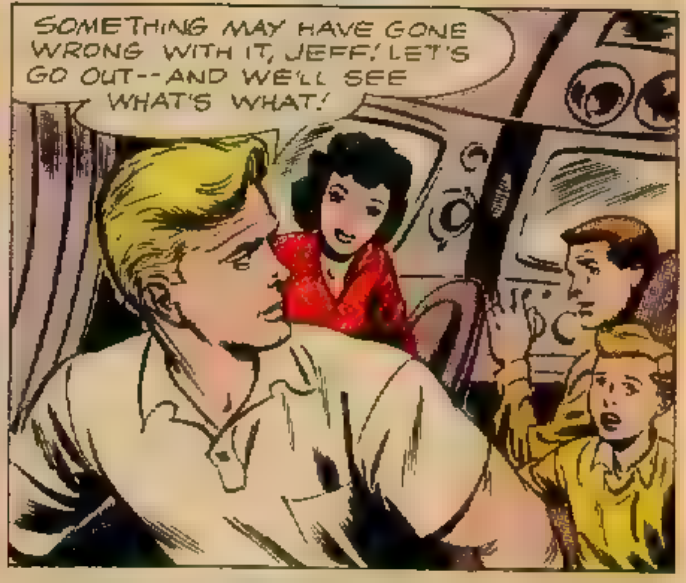
WHAT NOW, RIP?
BACK TO OUR OWN TIME, BONNIE--TO TELL PROFESSOR BLAIR WE'VE FAILED...

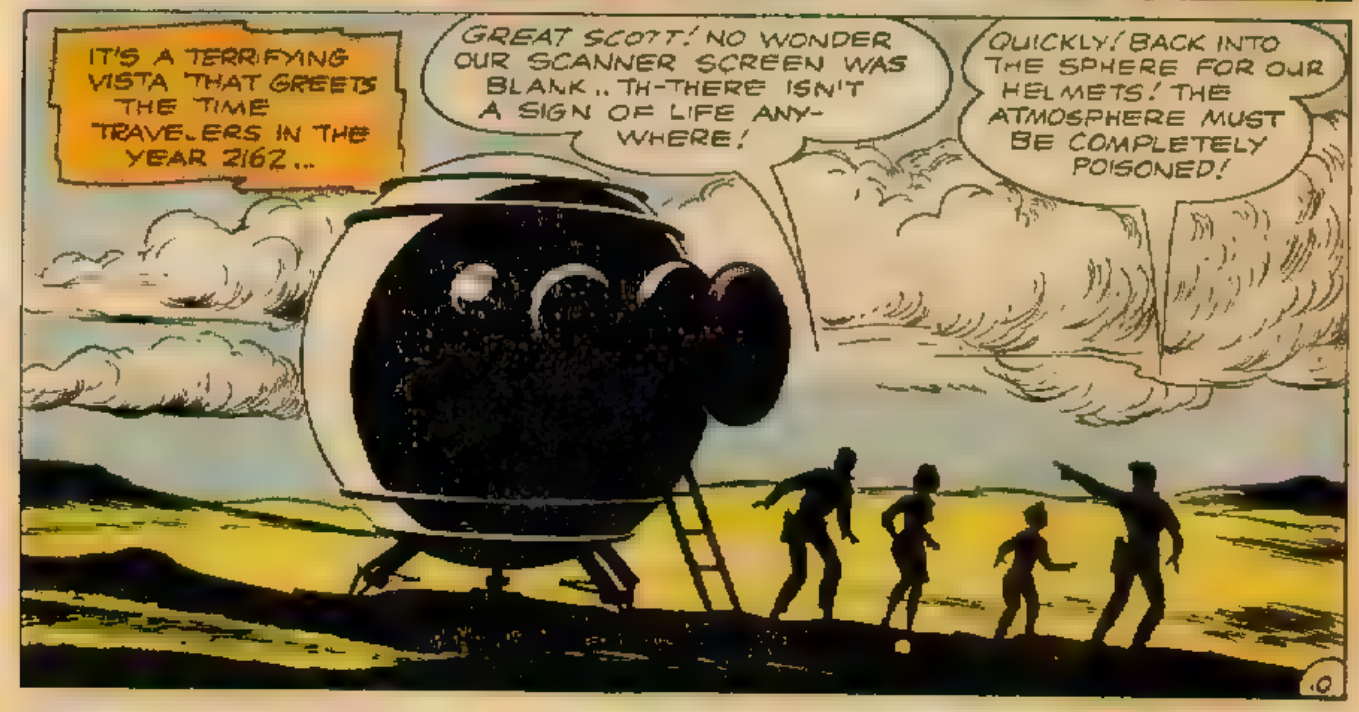

AND SO, FORWARD INTO THE PRESENT HURTLES THE SPHERE, UNTIL...
THIS IS GRIM NEWS, RIP! I--I'M AFRAID OUR PLANET IS DOOMED!
YES, PROFESSOR--UNLESS THE PEOPLE OF THE FUTURE FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO STOP IT!

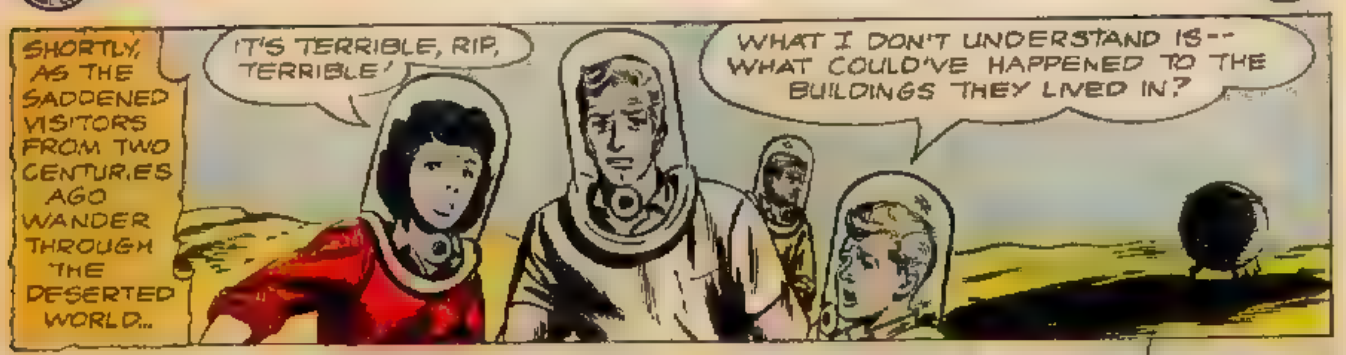

RIP!... YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FIND OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENS IN THE FUTURE!
JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING, PROFESSOR! HAVE YOU COMPUTED HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE THAT METEORITE TO POISON OUR ATMOSPHERE?

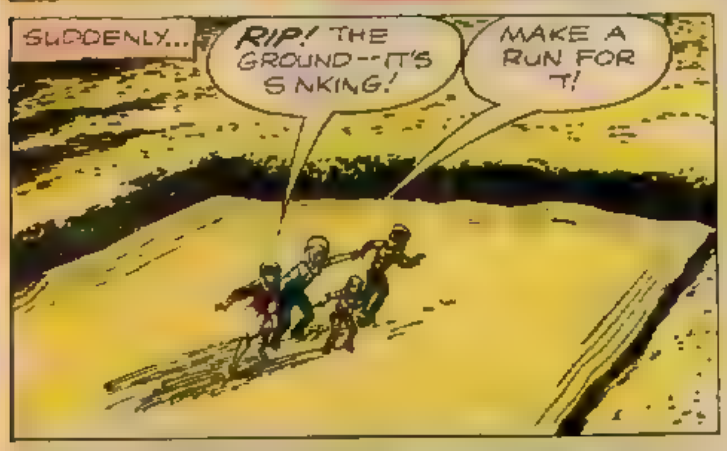

ABOUT 200 YEARS!
THEN THAT'S WHERE WE'LL SET THE TIME SPHERE DIAL! LET'S GO, GANG!


THUS, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE AMAZING TIME SPHERE ZOOMS IN A NEW "DIRECTION", WHERE A SURPRISE AWAITS THE FOURSOME...
WE'RE THERE, RIP, BUT I'LL BE HANGED IF I CAN SEE A THING ON THE VIDEO SCANNER SCREEN!


SOMETHING MAY HAVE GONE WRONG WITH IT, JEFF! LET'S GO OUT--AND WE'LL SEE WHAT'S WHAT!

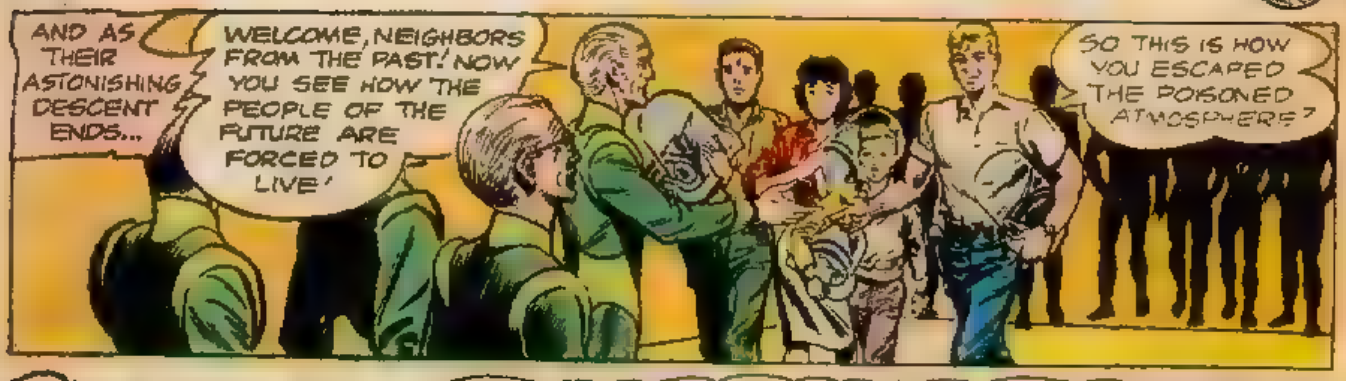

IT'S A TERRIFYING VISTA THAT GREETS THE TIME TRAVELERS IN THE YEAR 2162...
GREAT SCOTT! NO WONDER OUR SCANNER SCREEN WAS BLANK.. TH-THERE ISN'T A SIGN OF LIFE ANY-WHERE!
QUICKLY! BACK INTO THE SPHERE FOR OUR HELMETS! THE ATMOSPHERE MUST BE COMPLETELY POISONED!





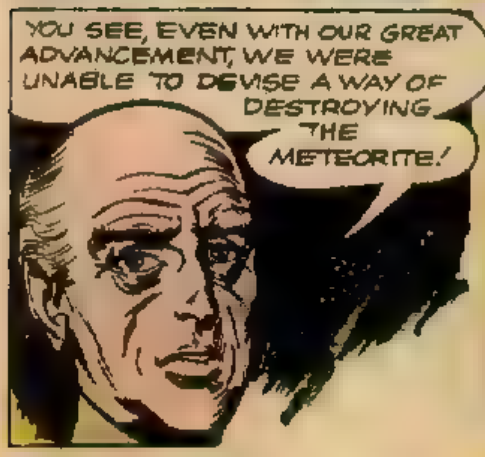
MINUTES LATER, THE TIME TRAVELERS GAPE IN AWE AT

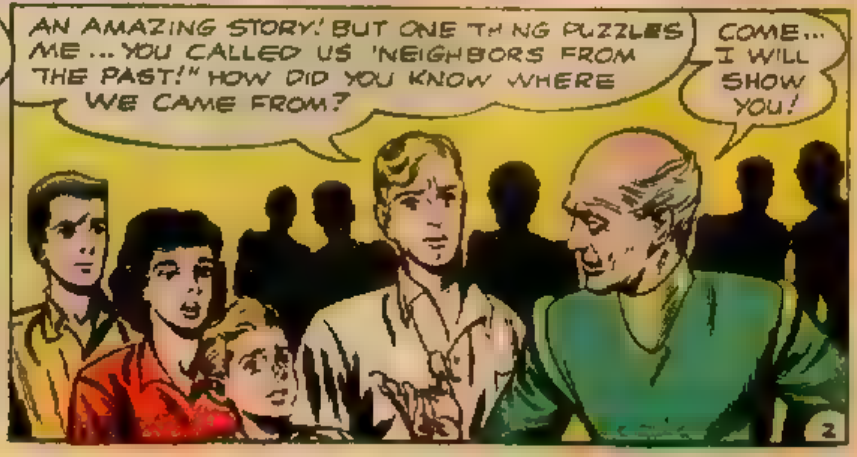
A--A FANTASTIC UNDERGROUND CITY!

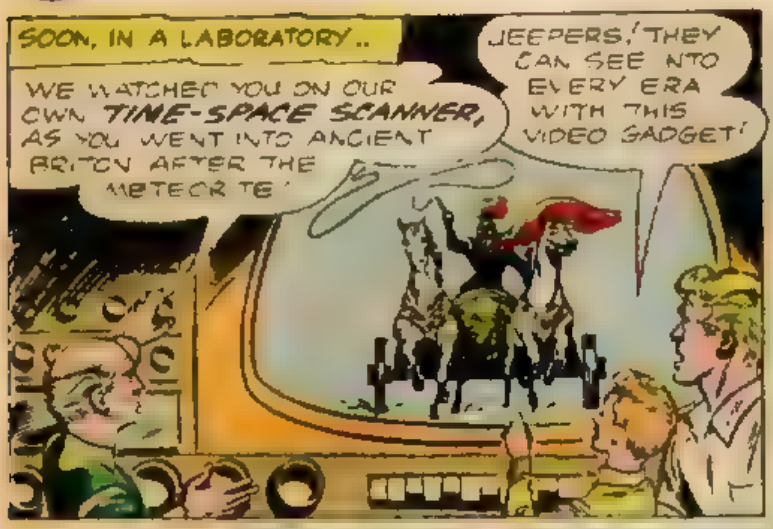

AND AS THEIR ASTONISHING DESCENT ENDS...
WELCOME, NEIGHBORS FROM THE PAST! NOW YOU SEE HOW THE PEOPLE OF THE FUTURE ARE FORCED TO LIVE!
SO THIS IS HOW YOU ESCAPED THE POISONED ATMOSPHERE?

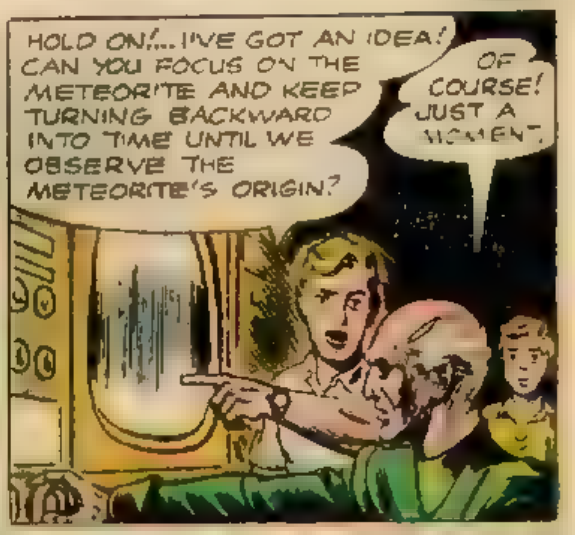
"YES... LUCKILY OUR MACHINES WERE SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED TO BORE OUT LIVING SPACE IN THE SOLID ROCK BELOW GROUND!"

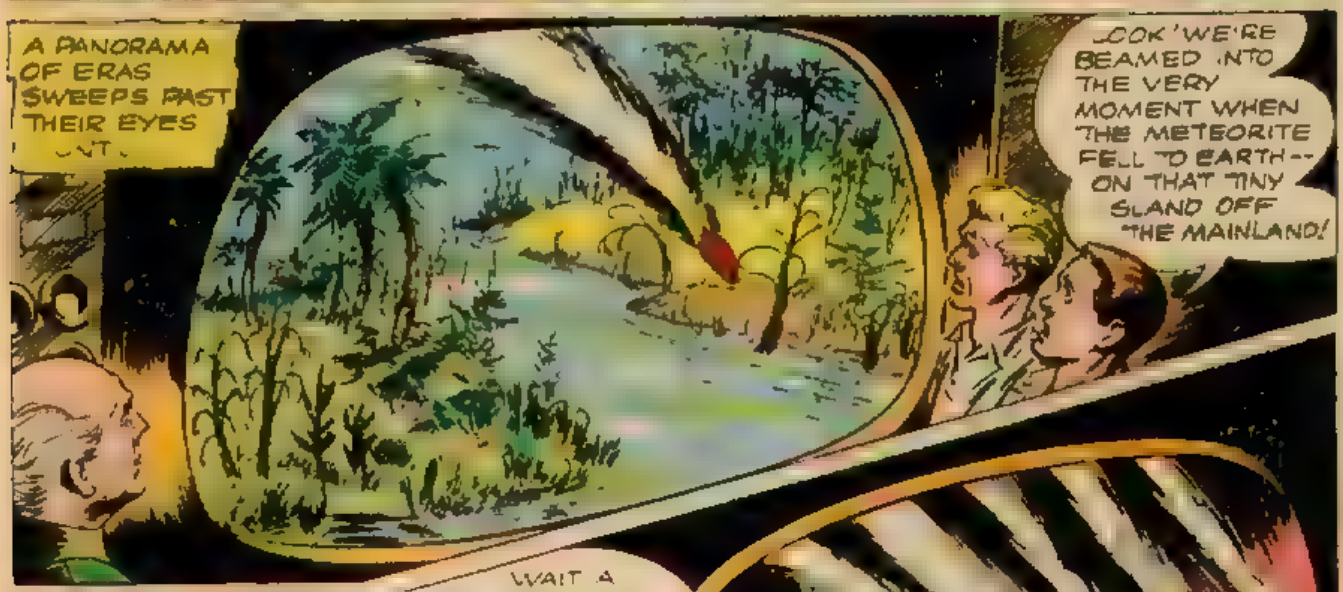
"WITH THE MEANS TO DUPLICATE PURE AIR AND WATER, AND GIANT ELEVATORS TO LOWER OUR SURFACE DWELLINGS"
"...WE HAVE MANAGED TO SURVIVE!"


YOU SEE, EVEN WITH OUR GREAT ADVANCEMENT, WE WERE UNABLE TO DEVISE A WAY OF DESTROYING THE METEORITE!


AN AMAZING STORY! BUT ONE THING PUZZLES ME... YOU CALLED US 'NEIGHBORS FROM THE PAST!' HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE WE CAME FROM?
COME... I WILL SHOW YOU!

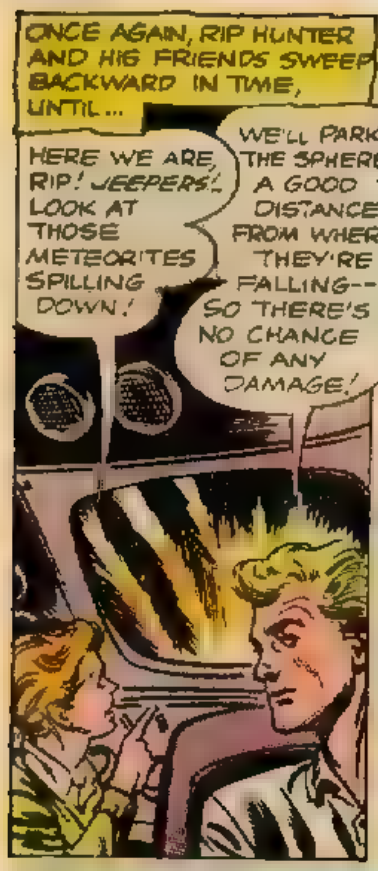

SOON, IN A LABORATORY..
WE WATCHED YOU ON OUR OWN TIME-SPACE SCANNER, AS YOU WENT INTO ANCIENT BRITON AFTER THE METEOR TE
JEEPERS! THEY CAN SEE INTO EVERY ERA WITH THIS VIDEO GADGET!

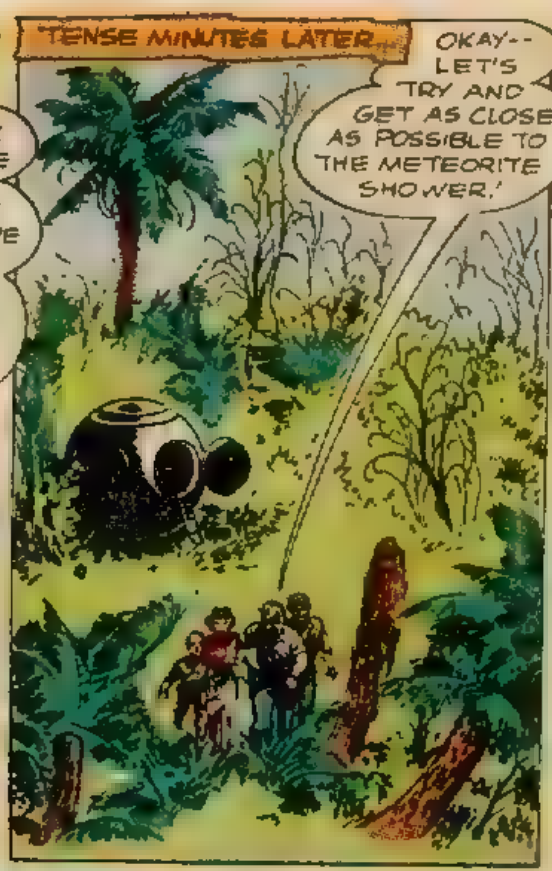

HOLD ON!... I'VE GOT AN IDEA! CAN YOU FOCUS ON THE METEORITE AND KEEP TURNING BACKWARD INTO TIME UNTIL WE OBSERVE THE METEORITE'S ORIGIN?
OF COURSE! JUST A MOMENT.


A PANORAMA OF ERAS SWEEPS PAST THEIR EYES
LOOK! WE'RE BEAMED INTO THE VERY MOMENT WHEN THE METEORITE FELL TO EARTH -- ON THAT TINY ISLAND OFF THE MAINLAND!

WAIT A MINUTE! THERE'S A WHOLE SHOWER OF METEORITES THAT FELL TO EARTH AT THE SAME TIME!
ODD... WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS?

MAYBE THE WHOLE CLUE TO OUR TROUBLE LIES IN FINDING THAT OUT, TIME MASTER! YOU MUST GO THERE!
JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING! GET THAT EXACT SETTING, JEEF-- AND LET'S TAKE OFF!

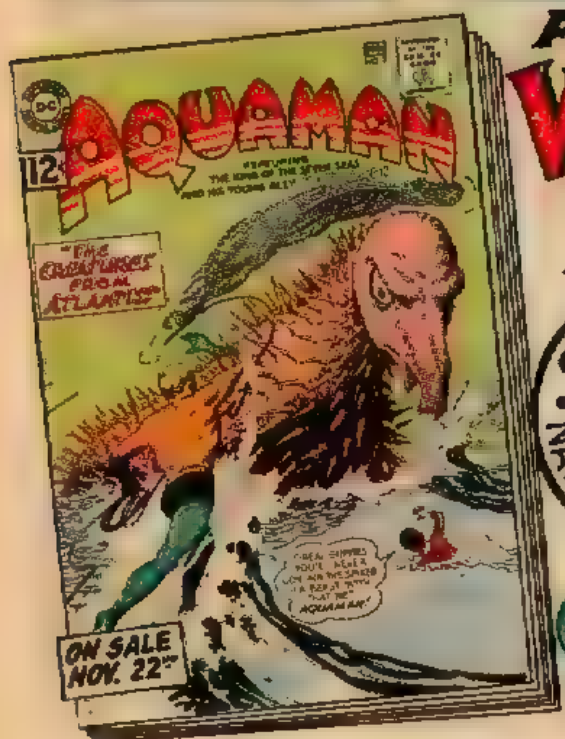

ONCE AGAIN, RIP HUNTER AND HIS FRIENDS SWEEP BACKWARD IN TIME, UNTIL...
HERE WE ARE, RIP! JEEPERS! LOOK AT THOSE METEORITES SPILLING DOWN!
WE'LL PARK THE SPHERE A GOOD DISTANCE FROM WHERE THEY'RE FALLING-- SO THERE'S NO CHANCE OF ANY DAMAGE!


TENSE MINUTES LATER...
OKAY-- LET'S TRY AND GET AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE METEORITE SHOWER!

BUT NEXT INSTANT...
GRACIOUS! WHAT'S HAPPENING -- AN EARTHQUAKE?

NO, LOOK! SOMETHING'S KNOCKING THOSE TREES OVER!

THE AWESOME ANSWER COMES NEXT MOMENT..
GREAT THUNDER! A--A GIGANTIC MONSTER-- COMING STRAIGHT AT US!



For The VERY BEST

SUPERMAN · DC · NATIONAL COMICS

in COMICS READING

THE PRECIOUS SUBSTANCE THAT CAN DESTROY THE DEADLY METEORITE LIES LOCKED ON THE DOOMED ISLAND, WHILE THE GALLANT TIME TRAVELERS BATTLE FURIOUSLY FOR...
EARTH'S LAST CHANCE
RIP! THE WHOLE ISLAND IS SINKING -- TOGETHER WITH THE ONLY ANTIDOTE FOR THAT METEORITE!
Chapter 3

AS THE FANTASTIC BEAST CHARGES FORWARD..
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP IT!
RIP! NO!

HUH?... RIP'S CLIMBING UP THE RIDGES ON THE BEAST'S BACK!

MOMENTS LATER...
GRACIOUS!. HE'S COVERING ITS TINY EYES!

YIPPEE!... THE BEAST IS VEERING OFF BLINDLY!

YES, BUT LOOK!.. IT'S BUCKING NOW--TRYING TO UNSEAT RIP!

C-CAN'T HANG ON MUCH LONGER!
WHAT'LL WE DO? IF RIP IS THROWN, HE'S A GONER!
JEFF! A ROPE!.. HURRY!
RIGHT!

THE TENSE SECONDS TICK OFF, UNTIL...
CATCH, RIP!

SWIFTLY, THE RESOURCEFUL TIME MASTER FORMS A LOOP, AND..
NICE WORK, RIP!

WHEW! YOU SENT IT SCURRYING LIKE A SCARED RABBIT! WHAT IS THAT THING, ANYHOW?
NO TIME TO SPECULATE, CORKY! RIGHT NOW, OUR JOB IS TO GET TO THOSE METEORITES!

ARRIVING, A STARTLING SIGHT GREETS THE TIME TRAVELERS

GOOD GRIEF, RIP! THIS WHOLE ISLAND IS CRAWLING WITH STRANGE BEASTS! WHERE'D THEY COME FROM?

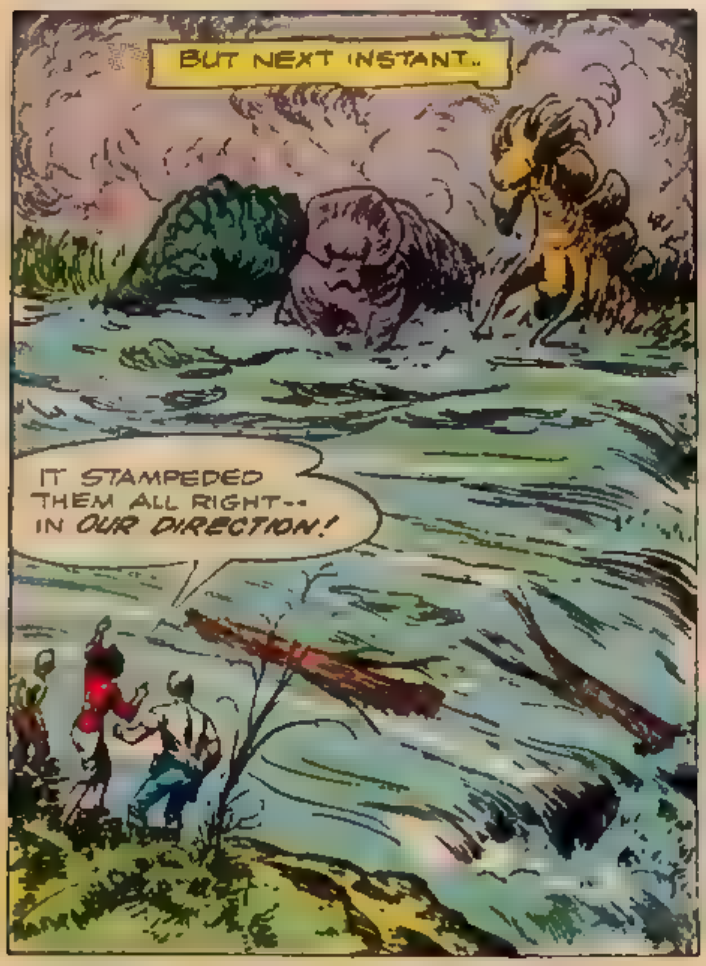
THERE'S ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER, BONNIE. THEY'RE PREHISTORIC ANIMALS WHOSE GENES WERE ALTERED BY THE HEAVY CONCENTRATION OF THE METEORIC FUMES!

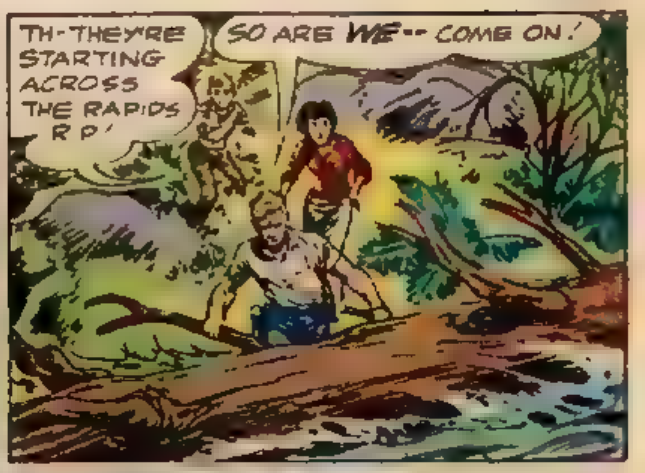
YOU'RE RIGHT, RIP... BUT HOW'LL WE EVER GET PAST 'EM-- TO GET TO THOSE METEORITES?

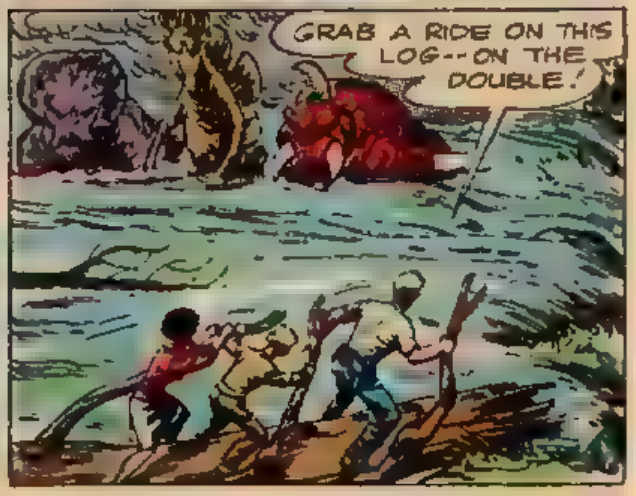
A SMOKE BOMB MIGHT STAMPEDE THEM OUT OF THERE! TRY DROPPING ONE FROM THE SPHERE!

MINUTES LATER, THE TIME SPHERE SWOOPS DOWN, AND..

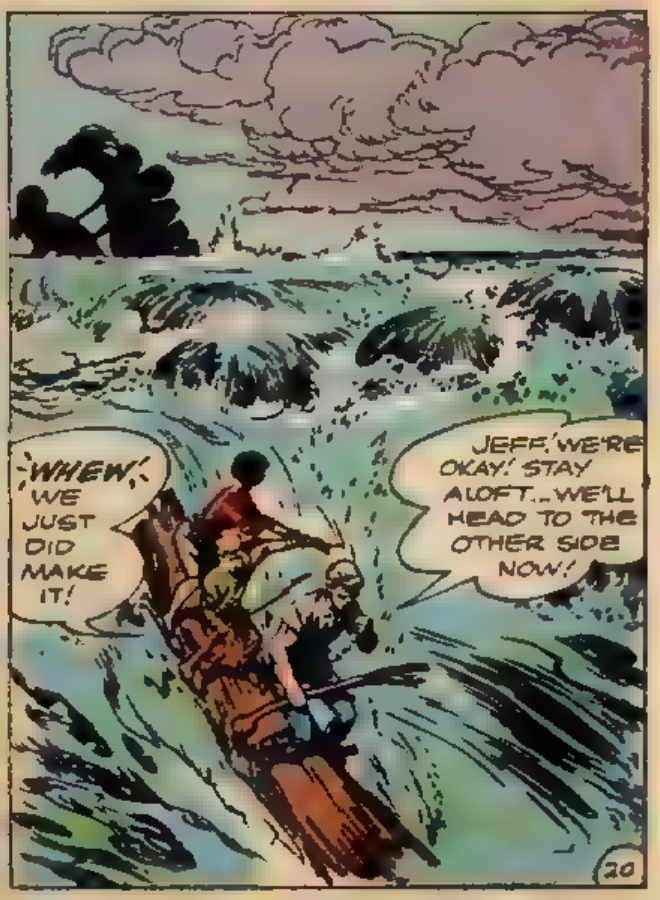
BLAM

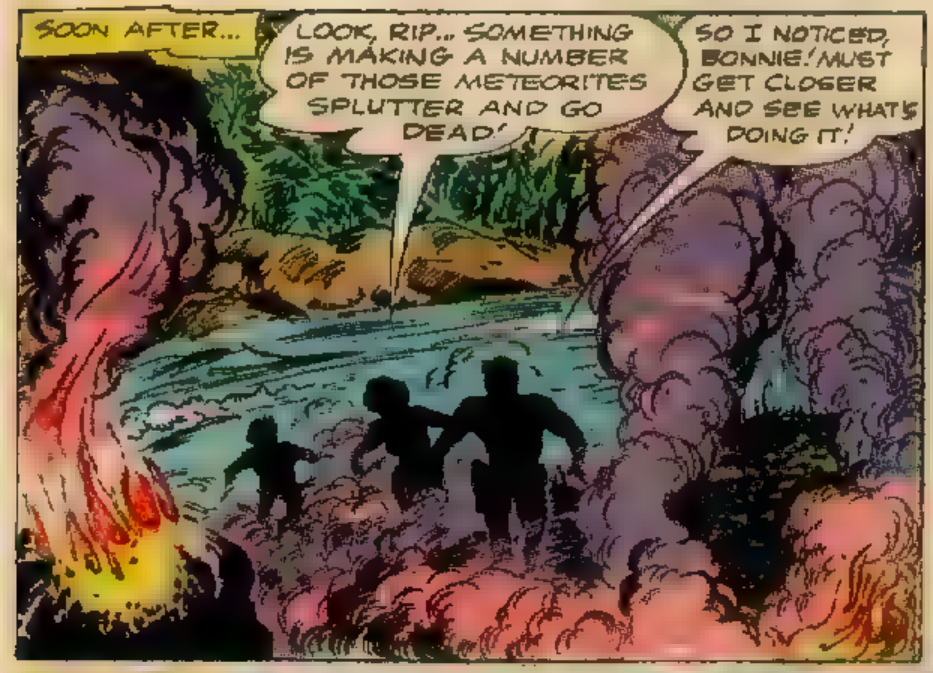

BUT NEXT INSTANT..
IT STAMPEDED THEM ALL RIGHT-- IN OUR DIRECTION!

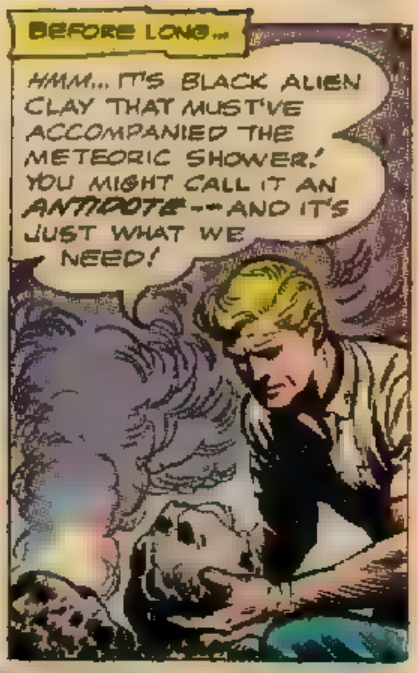

TH-THEY'RE STARTING ACROSS THE RAPIDS R P!
SO ARE WE-- COME ON!

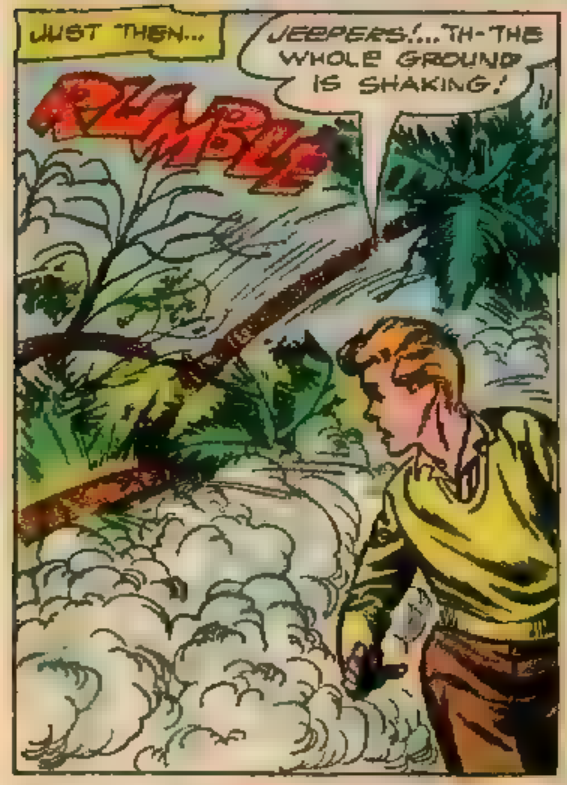

GRAB A RIDE ON THIS LOG--ON THE DOUBLE!

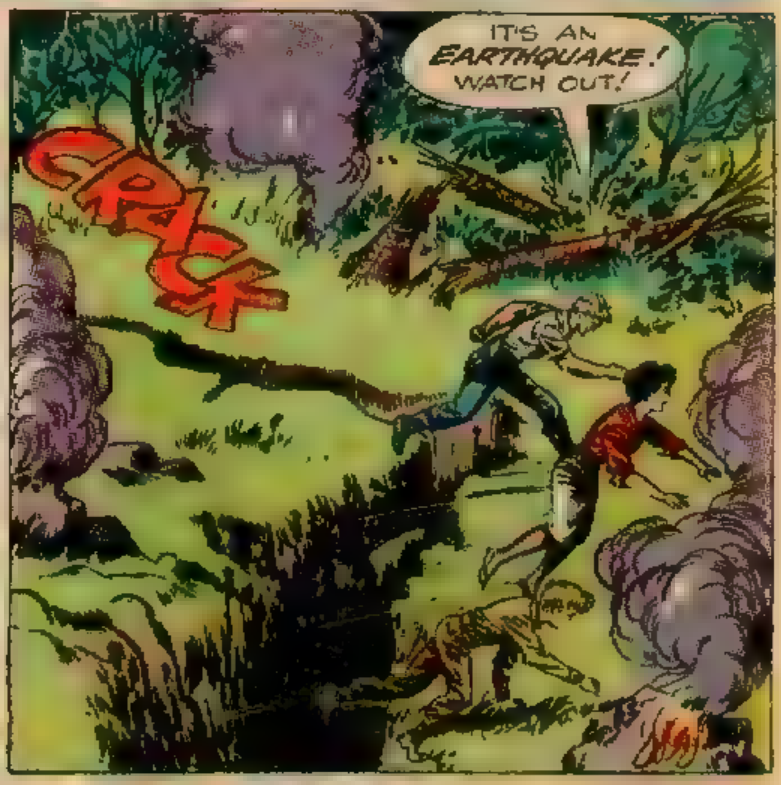
FASTER, LOG-- FASTER, FASTER!

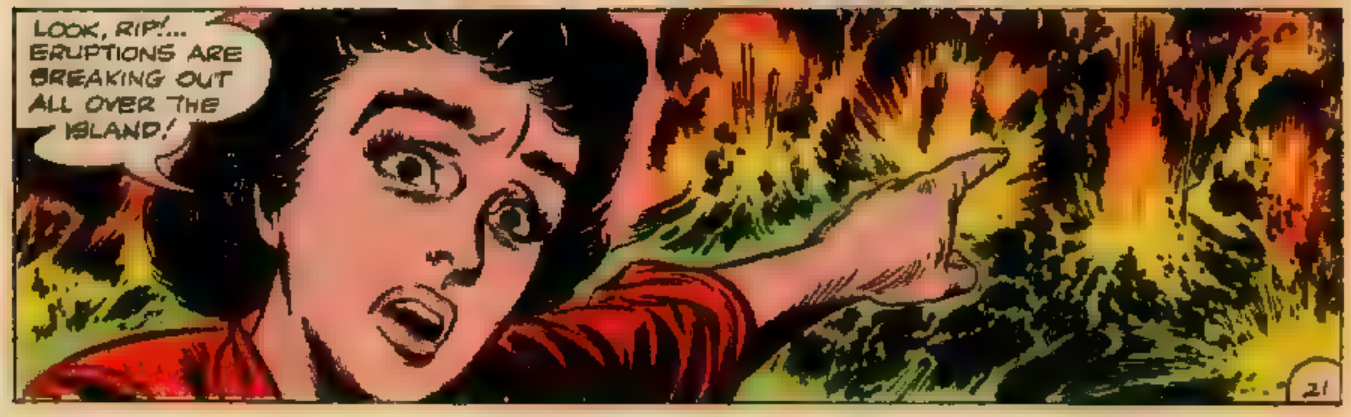

WHEW! WE JUST DID MAKE IT!
JEFF! WE'RE OKAY! STAY ALOFT..WE'LL HEAD TO THE OTHER SIDE NOW!


SOON AFTER...
LOOK, RIP... SOMETHING IS MAKING A NUMBER OF THOSE METEORITES SPLUTTER AND GO DEAD!
SO I NOTICED, BONNIE! MUST GET CLOSER AND SEE WHAT'S DOING IT!

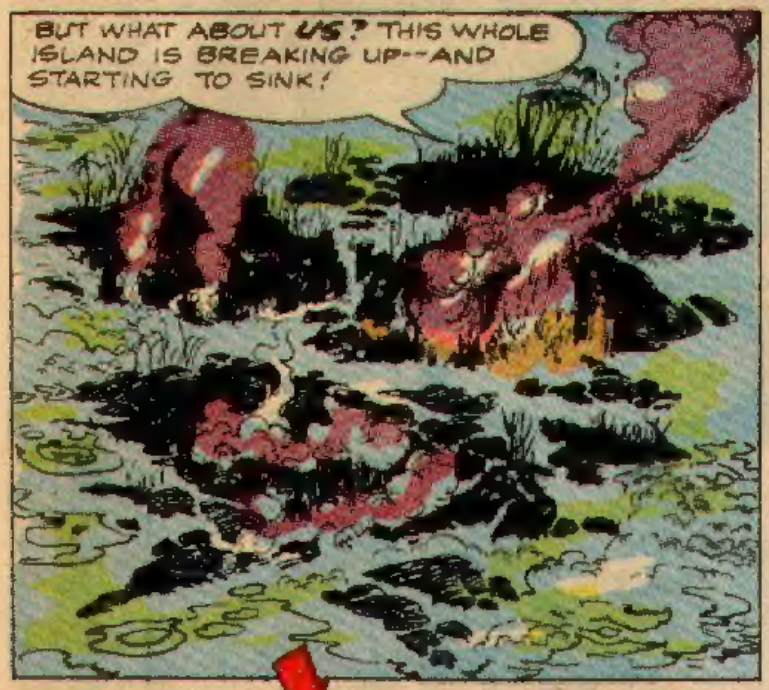

BEFORE LONG...
HMM... IT'S BLACK ALIEN CLAY THAT MUST'VE ACCOMPANIED THE METEORIC SHOWER! YOU MIGHT CALL IT AN ANTIDOTE -- AND IT'S JUST WHAT WE NEED!


JUST THEN...
JEEPERS!... TH-THE WHOLE GROUND IS SHAKING!
RUMBLE

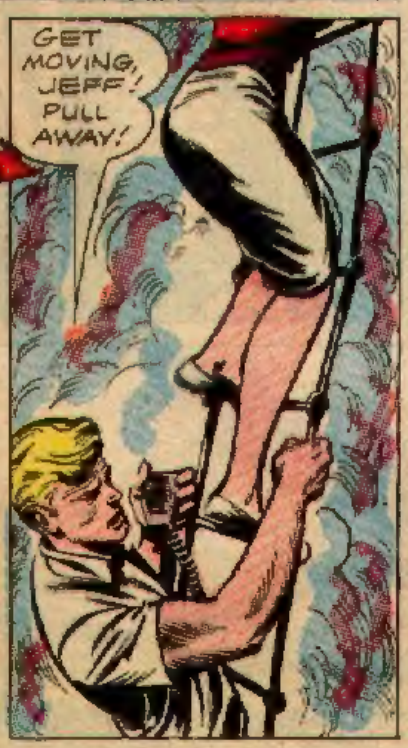

IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE! WATCH OUT!
CRACK


LOOK, RIP!... ERUPTIONS ARE BREAKING OUT ALL OVER THE ISLAND!

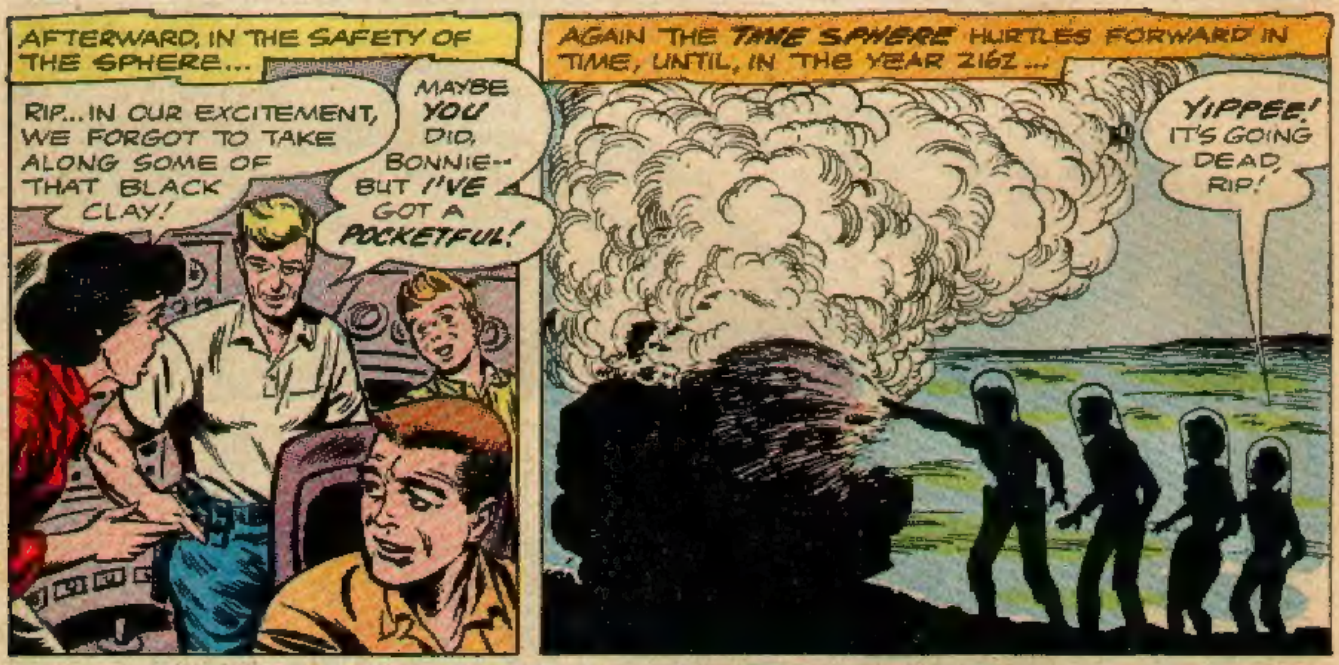
AND OVER THERE-- ONE ERUPTION IS CATAPULTING A METEORITE TOWARD THE MAINLAND!
NO DOUBT THE ONE THAT CAUSED ALL THE TROUBLE IN THE FUTURE!

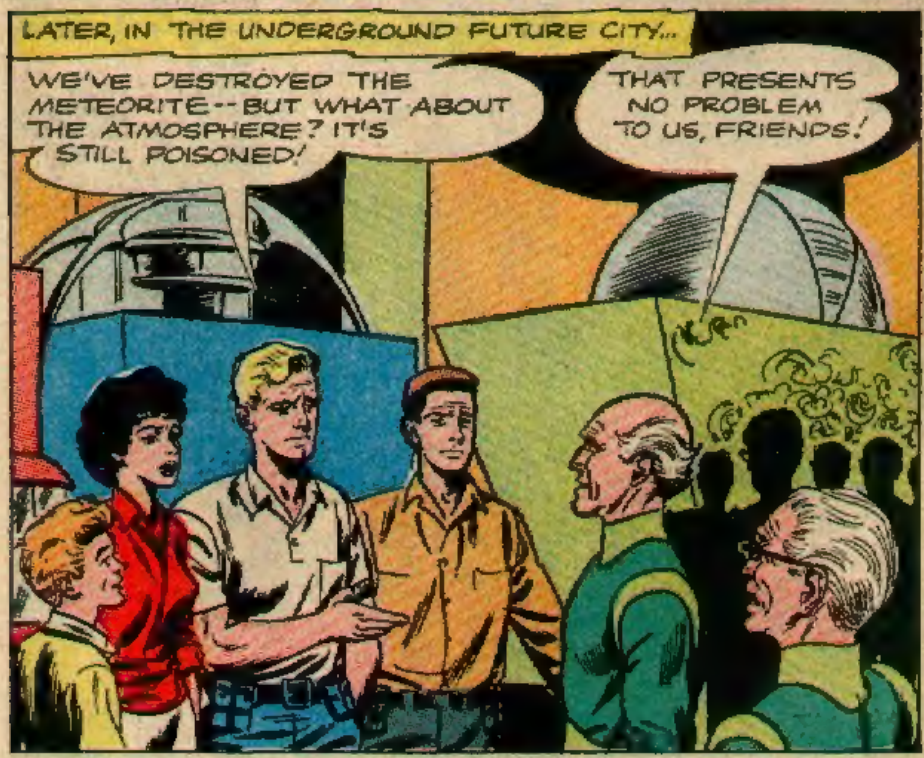

BUT WHAT ABOUT US? THIS WHOLE ISLAND IS BREAKING UP--AND STARTING TO SINK!

AT THAT MOMENT...
IT'S JEFF -- LETTING DOWN A LADDER FROM THE TIME SPHERE! HOP ON, YOU TWO!

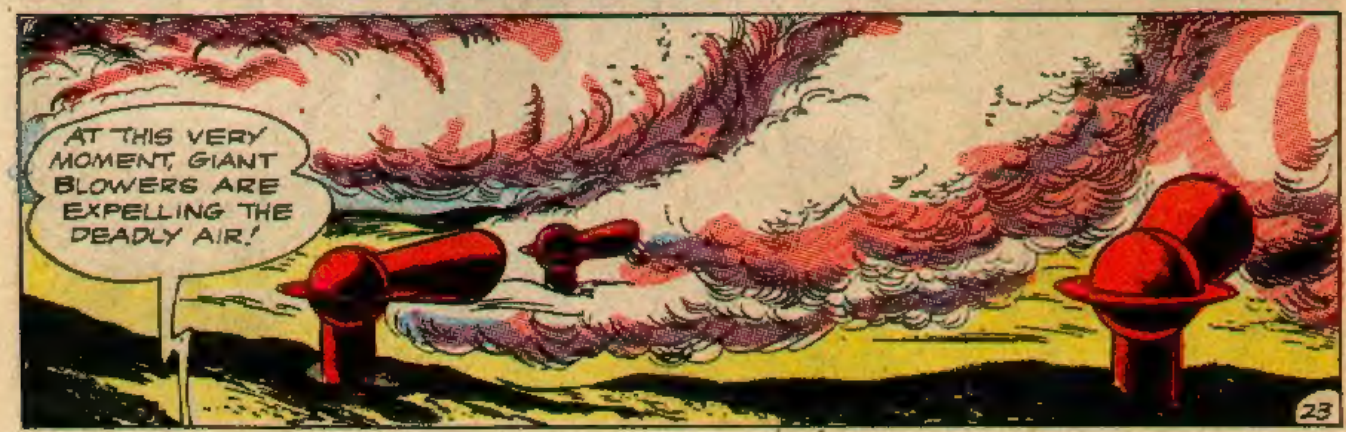

GET MOVING, JEFF! PULL AWAY!

GOLLY! THERE GOES THE WHOLE ISLAND!


AFTERWARD, IN THE SAFETY OF THE SPHERE...
RIP... IN OUR EXCITEMENT, WE FORGOT TO TAKE ALONG SOME OF THAT BLACK CLAY!
MAYBE YOU DID, BONNIE-- BUT I'VE GOT A POCKETFUL!
AGAIN THE TIME SPHERE HURTLES FORWARD IN TIME, UNTIL, IN THE YEAR 2162...
YIPPEE! IT'S GOING DEAD, RIP!


LATER, IN THE UNDERGROUND FUTURE CITY...
WE'VE DESTROYED THE METEORITE-- BUT WHAT ABOUT THE ATMOSPHERE? IT'S STILL POISONED!
THAT PRESENTS NO PROBLEM TO US, FRIENDS!

WE HAVE THE MEANS TO RID OURSELVES OF THE POISONED ATMOSPHERE-- AND DRAW DOWN FRESH AIR--NOW THAT THERE'S NO DANGER OF THE NEW AIR BEING POISONED!


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, GIANT BLOWERS ARE EXPELLING THE DEADLY AIR!

THUS, BEFORE LONG, AN INCREDIBLE SCENE TAKES PLACE...

GOLLY, RIP--LOOK! THE ENTIRE CITY IS BEING ELEVATED TO THE SURFACE!

AND SO, AS THE AMAZING TIME SPHERE MAKES ITS FINAL RETURN TRIP...

DID YOU HEAR WHAT HE CALLED US?... ANCIENT!

I GUESS WE ARE PRETTY ANCIENT, COMPARED TO THEM, CORKY!

SOON...

SO YOU'RE BACK, RIP! DID YOU HAVE ANY BETTER LUCK THIS TRIP?

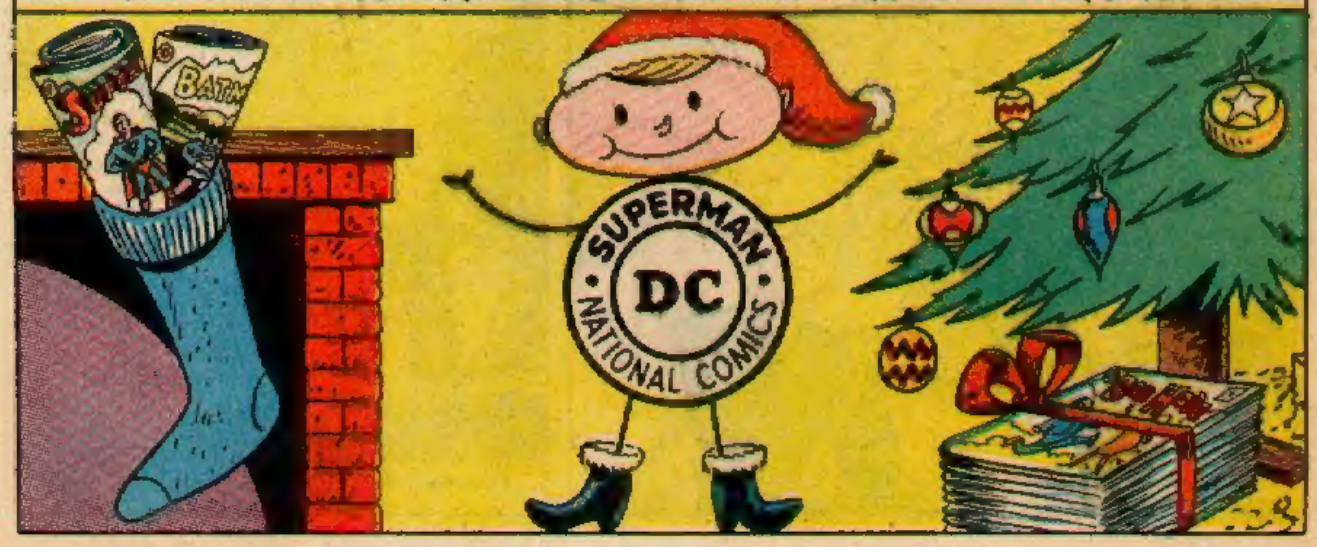
YOU CAN STOP WORRYING ABOUT THE METEORITE, PROFESSOR...

...IT WAS WELL TAKEN CARE OF-- IN THE FUTURE!

YES--300 YEARS FROM TODAY, TO BE EXACT!

The End

For HOLIDAY GIVING....

For HOLIDAY RECEIVING...

For THE BEST in READING PLEASURE